



## Cap and trade legislation for greenhouse gas emissions: Public health benefits from air pollution mitigation

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### Abstract:

Legislation to cap and trade greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions was approved by a 219-212 vote of the United States House of Representatives on June 26, 2009. Cap and trade policy articulated in the American Clean Energy and Security (ACES) act of 2009 regulates GHGs including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulfur hexafluoride, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and nitrogen trifluoride. Debate over the ACES act focused heavily on economic issues contrasted against concerns about climate change<sup>1</sup>. However, discussion largely ignored the potential for cap and trade legislation to contribute to reductions in levels of other harmful air pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, and ozone precursors that share emission sources with GHGs.

**Source:** <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2913286>

### Resource Description

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Unspecified Exposure

**Air Pollution:** Ozone, Particulate Matter, Other Air Pollution

**Air Pollution (other):** SO<sub>2</sub>

#### Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

#### Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

United States

#### Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

A focus of content

## **Health Impact:** ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Respiratory Effect, Other Health Impact

**Other Health Impact:** Hospital admissions

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:** ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Mitigation

## **Resource Type:** ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

## **Timescale:** ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified